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PATENT  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
AVITAL et al. )  
Serial No: 09/852,458 )  
Filed: May 9, 2001 )  
For: METHOD FOR THE ISOLATION OF )  
STEM CELLS BY IMMUNO-LABELING WITH )  
HLA/MHC GENE PRODUCT MARKER )

Art Unit: 1632  
Examiner: Thaian N. Ton

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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Seth D. Levy, Reg. No. 44,869  
Name

[Signature] 09/30/2002  
Signature Date

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-36 are directed to methods for the isolation of stem cells based upon non-expression of  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin (" $\beta_2m$ "), and claims 37-42 are directed to an isolated stem cell that does not express  $\beta_2m$ . Stem cell markers are utilized in various embodiments of the invention to aid in